

{In Archive} Fw: DSM Register coverage of Iowa 's load reduction press release

Peter Davis to: Dov Weitman

02/22/2007 05:33 PM

Cc: Margaret Stockdale, Brad Horchem, Sue Belvill, Damon Frizzell, Steve Schaff,
Marie.Leat, Rebecca.Schwiete

From: Peter Davis/WWPD/R7/USEPA/US

To: Dov Weitman/DC/USEPA/US@EPA,

Cc: Margaret Stockdale/WWPD/R7/USEPA/US@EPA, Brad
Horchem/WWPD/R7/USEPA/US@EPA, Sue Belvill/WWPD/R7/USEPA/US@EPA, Damon
Frizzell/WWPD/R7/USEPA/US@EPA, Steve Schaff/WWPD/R7/USEPA/US@EPA,

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This is great news - the nonpoint pollutant load reductions achieved in Iowa 319 projects in FY06 made it into the Des Moines Register....

In a meeting with Marie, Becky, and Ubbo yesterday (before Ubbo's retirement reception), we (re-)discovered that IDNR is very conscientious about how they estimate, and accurately report the load reductions, that resulted from BMPs installed via 319 projects. Compared to the National program goals, Iowa has reduced their 'fair share' of sediment, phosphorous, (and perhaps Nitrogen) loading to waterbodies. IDNR is currently reviewing methods, e.g., used in other corn-belt States, for calculating the N reductions.

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----- Forwarded by Peter Davis/WWPD/R7/USEPA/US on 02/22/07 05:14 PM -----



Marie Leat
<Marie.Leat@dnr.state.ia.us>

02/22/07 03:16 PM

To: Brad Horchem/WWPD/R7/USEPA/US@EPA
cc: Sue Belvill/WWPD/R7/USEPA/US@EPA, Peter
Davis/WWPD/R7/USEPA/US@EPA
Subject: Fwd: Re: DSM Register coverage of Iowa's load reduction
press release

We'll try this again... I cut/pasted the Des Moines Register article below since Sue and Pete could not get to the web link. Hopefully, it will work this time. Thanks,

Marie

State: tons of silt kept from Iowa waters last year
PERRY BEEMAN
REGISTER STAFF WRITER

February 22, 2007
1 Comment

The soil kept out of Iowa's waterways by conservation practices installed in the 2006 budget year would fill a line of trucks six miles long, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources reports.

Conservation practices such as grassy buffer strips along rivers kept 18,000 tons of soil out of the streams and lakes.

Local watershed projects work with landowners to install conservation practices in a watershed, which is an area of land that drains into a lake or stream. Common conservation practices include wetlands, ponds, terraces and buffers. These practices reduce the amount of pollutants * sediment, nutrients and bacteria * reaching a lake or stream.

Each year, the department helps finance local watershed projects that improve Iowa's water. Of those projects, 26 reported on practices installed from Oct. 1, 2005 to Sept. 30, 2006.

In addition to the soil savings, the work kept 37,000 pounds of phosphorus out of the water. That ingredient of fertilizer, which also occurs naturally, feeds algae blooms.

The figures only include DNR-financed projects. Many landowners do work on their own or through other government or private programs.

The department has tracked annual sediment and phosphorus load reductions since 2004. Practices installed in 2004, 2005 and 2006 now collectively reduce sediment reaching Iowa's waters by 57,721 tons per year and phosphorus loading by 106,728 pounds per year.

Sediment can make water cloudy, damage the habitat of fish and other aquatic life, and fill in lakes and streambeds. High levels of nutrients, like phosphorus, can cloud the water, increase drinking water costs and lead to poor aquatic life diversity.

"Reducing the amount of pollution reaching our streams and lakes is just one step in improving Iowa's water, but we hope the success we've seen this year will flow into other water quality improvement efforts," said Allen Bonini, head of the DNR's watershed-improvement program.

"We hope that these reductions, along with other watershed work, will help us remove some streams and lakes from Iowa's impaired waters list in the future," he said.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency provides DNR money to fight runoff pollution. The state in turn finances local watershed projects.

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Reader Comment Posted by: Anne
on Thu Feb 22, 2007 12:45 pm

This is good news and a good start. Now lawmakers need to do what Governor Culver promised he would do, but didn't. They need to fund REAP at \$20 million so more of this good work will happen.

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----- Message from "Marie Leat" <Marie.Leat@dnr.state.ia.us> on Thu, 22 Feb 2007 14:39:22 -0600 -----

To: <Horchem.Brad@epamail.epa.gov>

"Allen Bonini" <Allen.Bonini@dnr.state.ia.us>, "Rebecca Schwiete"

cc: <Rebecca.Schwiete@dnr.state.ia.us>, "Ubbo Agena" <Ubbo.Agena@dnr.state.ia.us>,
<Belvill.Sue@epamail.epa.gov>,<Davis.Peter@epamail.epa.gov>

Subject: Fwd: Re: DSM Register coverage of Iowa's load reduction press release

Brad-
Becky Schwiete (interim NPS Program Coordinator) suggested I send you a copy of a Des Moines Register article that came out today based on a press release DNR sent out today regarding Iowa's sediment and P load reductions for FFY2006 (see attached). Our press release pertained to load reductions accomplished by watershed projects funded with Section 319 funding. Thought you might be interested. Thanks,

Marie

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----- Message from "Rebecca Schwiete" <Rebecca.Schwiete@dnr.state.ia.us> on Thu, 22 Feb 2007 13:50:26 -0600 -----

To: "Marie Leat" <Marie.Leat@dnr.state.ia.us>

Subject: Re: DSM Register coverage of our load reduction press release

Marie,
Maybe we should probably forward this to EPA also.
Thanks
Becky

Becky Schwiete
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>>> Marie Leat 02/22/07 1:45 PM >>>
Allen-

Becky Schwiete emailed me from home and noticed the Des Moines Register picked up the EcoNewsWire press release on 2006 load reductions from watershed projects (see below). It came out on their website at 11:55am today.

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070222/NEWS/70222025/1001>

Marie

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